

1910.

ANNUAL REPORT

FOR THE

STOCKBRIDGE RURAL DISTRICT.

STEEPLETON,
STOCKBRIDGE.

MARCH, 1911.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF STOCKBRIDGE
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg herewith to submit to you my Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary Condition of your District for the year 1910.

Physical Features of the District.

The Rural District of Stockbridge is divided into two sub-districts, Stockbridge and Broughton.

The Stockbridge Sub-district consists of the Valley of the Test and the villages therein situate, Kings Somborne and Ashley.

The District of Broughton is made up of the villages in the valley running parallel to that of the Test, together with East and West Tytherley.

The soil is peat, chalk, and occasionally gravel or loam, but always sub-soil chalk.

On the whole, the health of the inhabitants is good, especially in the Test Valley, where the swiftly running water promotes circulation of air, and tends to shorten the life of Epidemics generally.

The Occupation of the Inhabitants

is essentially agricultural. There are no factories of any sort, nor is there a town of any size in the District.

There are large Racing Establishments in and near Stockbridge, the owners of which avail themselves of the facilities for Training afforded by the large expanses of smooth turflike Downs. The Area of the District is 42,604 acres

The house accommodation is on the whole good, there are no dwellers in Vans (stationary) or Canal Boats. There are 1,295 houses under the £16 rating, and about 300 over. That amount making about 1,600 in all.

The population at the 1901 census was 6,130. The estimated population in 1909 was 7,250. This gives an average of 4.53 inhabitants to each house.

The Water Supply is on the whole satisfactory, being mostly drawn from wells sunk in the chalk, consequently intense hardness is a prominent feature, as much as 13 degrees being often returned as a result of "analysis." There being no Towns in the District, there is, of course, no water supplied by Companies, and no water rates, each house being dependent on its own well, or on one within a reasonable distance.

Milk Supply.

There are several large Cowkeepers in the District, most of whom send their milk away to London, two to Southampton, one to Winchester, and one to Gloucester.

The Register is carefully kept by the Inspector, Mr. Ayles.

The following is a list of those registered in 1908 :—

Edney, V., West Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Harwood, J., West Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Bradby, W., West Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Bowden, W., West Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Lambert, T., East Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Dalgety, Capt., East Tytherley	...	...	Cowshed
Peddle, E. H., Piddleworth	...	...	Cowshed
Butler, H., Bossington	...	...	Cowshed
Butler, W., Bossington	...	...	Cowshed
Osmond, F., Houghon	...	...	Cowshed
Smith, G., Stockbridge	...	...	Cowshed
Combes, T., Stockbridge	...	...	Cowshed
Hewett, R., Leckford	...	...	Cowshed
Holloway, W., Longstock	...	...	Cowshed
Chubb, F., Longstock	...	...	Cowshed
Baker, A., Longstock	...	...	Cowshed
Petty, G., Broughton	...	...	Cowshed
Hunt, C., Broughton	...	...	Cowshed
Hinwood, J., Broughton	...	...	Cowshed
Russell, A., Broughton	...	...	Cowshed
Kyle, E., Longstock	...	...	Cowshed
Deverell, W. H., Bossington	...	...	Cowshed
Biddlecombe, E., Oakley Meadows	...	...	Cowshed
Bilson, J., Longstock	...	...	Cowshed
Lyne-Stevens, Doctor, Nether Wallop	...	...	Cowshed
Hale, C., Nether Wallop	...	...	Cowshed

Lywood, J., Nether Wallop	...	...	Cowshed
Maidment, G., Over Wallop	...	...	Cowshed
Rumble, H., Over Wallop	...	...	Cowshed
Wake, E., Horsebridge	...	...	Cowshed
Green, C., Brook	...	...	Cowshed
White, E., Kings Somborne	...	...	Cowshed

(The ventilation of the cowsheds is satisfactory).

The above return was prepared in October, 1908, since which time a few changes have taken place from death and removals, but in most cases the cowsheds remain registered, *Ownership* only having changed hands. The cowsheds show marked improvement, lime-washing being now insisted on at least once a year.

The *Ventilation* is satisfactory.

The *Lighting* is provided by means of windows and openings.

Water supply for the cows is good, mostly from rivers, some from pumps, and only six from ponds.

The drainage of the cowsheds is effected in one case by a six-inch pipe, in one by a system of drains, and in all other cases by surface. In most cases the cows sleep out during the summer, only coming into the sheds to be milked.

In the matter of cleanliness of the animals themselves, I am of opinion that there is room for much improvement. I am afraid very little is done in the way of cleaning or grooming the cows. We are most particular that there shall be no possible chance of our drinking *water* being contaminated, yet our milk is taken

from a source in the immediate proximity to which, more often than not, masses of coagulated filth are to be found, the entrance of some of which into the milking pail appearing to be a very possible event.

In view of the fact that our infant mortality is unduly high, I feel that every precaution should be taken to ensure the absolute purity of their chief food.

I am of opinion that all large Dairies should at milking times be under the direct supervision of a reliable educated person, who will see that the milkers' hands are properly washed, and that the bodies of the cows are as clean as they can be consistently made.

The Slaughter Houses and Bakeries are in good order, periodical inspection is made of them by the Sanitary Authority. There are no underground Bakeries.

The Drainage is as effective as it can possibly be made in a district where many farm yards, etc., are nearly on a level with the river.

The Disposal of Sewage under these conditions is necessarily a difficult problem in consequence of the want of "fall."

Cess-pits with overflows are in use, and in the cottages, the bucket system in lieu of the old underground vaults is insisted upon as far as possible.

Pollution of Rivers in this District does not take place.

The *Bye-Laws* relating to Dairies and, Cowsheds, &c., are those recommended by the Local Government Board, modified to meet the requirements of the District.

The Schools are in a quite satisfactory condition throughout, the new schools at Stockbridge were brought into use after the summer holidays.

At Kings Somborne, at one time, there was a suspicion of bad smells and damp, but the ousting of some owls from the roof, where they had taken up their abode (and whose excrement, together with the remains of animals brought in by them for food, tainted the atmosphere), soon removed the former, while the discovery that the air-bricks had become covered up enabled the School Authorities to put the second matter right.

Diphtheria has again been prevalent in Kings Somborne and neighbourhood, there having been 16 cases in all during the year, mostly very mild, clearing up in a few days, or even hours, but showing the presence of the Kloebs Löffler Bacillus.

I am quite unable to say if this is a continuation of the epidemic in Kings Somborne of 1909.

The greatest possible precautions were taken in all cases. Isolation was immediately procured, and disinfectants freely used—carbolic acid (1 in 120) was supplied ad libitum—as soon as every member of an infected household had been swabbed negatively the Inspector fumigated with the Linger apparatus, the use of which was recommended by Dr. Lyster, formalin and methylated spirits (the later mineralised) being used.

With the exception of the above, it may be said that Infectious diseases were not prevalent during the year, as five cases of scarlet fever were the only ones notified.

Notification of Infectious diseases is always most promptly made by the Medical Men in the district.

There is no Isolation Hospital, though the Berthon Huts presented by the Chairman are kept in a usable condition, so that they may be available in case we should have any cases of Small-Pox.

Bacteriological Work is very promptly carried out by the Clinical Research Association, with whom we have special terms for the Examination of and Reports on Swabbings from suspected Diphtheritics.

I keep a supply of Antitoxin for Diphtheria always available for the immediate use of my confrères in the district.

I also keep plenty of carbolic acid disinfectant at the surgery, Stockbridge, at the surgery, Kings Somborne, at my own house, and at Mr. Ayles', Broughton, from any of which places it can always be obtained on application.

Although there have been six cases of Tubercular Phthisis, none of these were notifiable.

Large numbers of cartoons supplied by the County Medical Officer were distributed throughout the District. All the schoolmasters were given quantities of the cartoons, and requested to distribute them among the

children. I find them occupying conspicuous positions in the cottages, and feel sure they must do some good. We have no building for the accommodation of Tubercular patients. I think it would be a wise step if "Don't Spit" notices or plates were circulated freely in the District, this being one of many ways of keeping before the public the importance of taking all possible precautions in Tubercular cases.

During the year 1910 only 126 births were registered. This gives an average of 17·2 per 1000 of the estimated gross population.

There were 77 deaths, giving an average of 10·5 per 1000 of estimated population. These included 24 from Heart Disease, Cancer 7, Tubercular Phthisis 6, Bronchitis 3, Pneumonia 3, Suicide 1, while Whooping Cough and Accidents were responsible for two apiece.

Subjoined is the report of Mr. Ayles, the Inspector, who has worked well with me throughout the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Yours faithfully,

WALTER K. LOVELESS.

BROUGHTON,

March 29th, 1911.

DEAR SIR,

I beg to report to you that during the past year I have made 376 inspections, of which 47 were under the Dairies and Milkshops Regulations, and 329 under the Public Health and Housing and Town Planning Bill.

During the year 27 informal and 32 statutory notices were served in respect of the following works :—

Water supply—8 notices relating to 10 cottages and 1 house.

Overcrowding—5 notices relating to 5 cottages.

Limewashing and general repairs—21 notices relating to 29 cottages.

Privies, Drains, etc.—18 notices relating to 32 cottages and 6 other premises.

Dairies—6 notices relating to 4 cowpens and 2 cowyards.

Houses unfit for habitation—6 notices relating to 12 cottages.

Water certificates—7 notices were issued relating to 7 new cottages.

As to the carrying out of the work to abate the nuisances, work of a permanent nature, where required, has been done, and the overcrowding was abated. In 6 cases, at the end of the year, the time allowed by the Council for the abatement of the nuisances had not expired, and the 12 houses unfit for habitation at the end of the year had not been made fit, but the owners of 3 have agreed, and are now putting them in order. The owner of 1 other has agreed to put it in order, but owing to being engaged in repairing other cottages, the matter has been delayed. As to the remaining 8, the Council will have to consider the question of their demolition.

Yours respectfully,

W. J. AYLES.

To

DR. LOVELESS.

TABLE I.

Vital Statistics of Whole District during 1910 and previous Years.

YEAR	Population estimated to Middle of each Year	BIRTHS		TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT						Deaths of Non-residents registered in Public Institutions in the District	Deaths of Residents registered in Public Institutions beyond the District	NETT DEATHS AT ALL AGES BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT	
		Number	Rate*	Under 1 Year of Age		At all Ages						Number	Rate*
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births registered	Number	Rate*						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
1900	7,162	154	25.3	9	1.36	82	12.4	5			82	12.4	
1901	6,130	138	22.3	18	2.76	102	16.6	11			102	16.6	
1902	6,178	144	20.4	7	1.16	96	15.8	7			96	15.8	
1903	6,845	128	18.69	10	1.51	72	10.5	4			72	10.5	
1904	6,917	149	20.94	11	1.66	79	11.8	5			79	11.8	
1905	6,974	145	20.7	11	1.54	88	12.6	8			88	12.6	
1906	7,024	120	17.08	7	.84	70	9.96	5			70	9.9	
1907	7,085	143	21.58	5	.70	78	11.2	11			78	11.2	
1908	7,176	150	20.86	10	1.5	89	12.4	12			89	12.4	
1909	7,250	147	20.27	13	1.13	71	9.7	5			71	9.7	
Averages for years 1900-1909	6,874	141	20.7	10	1.38	82	12.6	7.3			82	12.6	
1910	6,899	126	17.2	7	.88	77	10.5	3			77	10.5	

* Rates in columns 4 and 8 should be calculated per 1,000 of the estimated gross population.

† Population at Census of 1891. ‡ Population at Census of 1901.

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 42,604. Total population at all ages, 6,130. Number of inhabited houses, 1,532. Average number of persons per house, 4.1.

Vital Statistics of separate Localities in 1910 and previous years.

Names of Localities.	STOCKBRIDGE				Population estimated to mid-dle of each year	Births registered	Deaths at all Ages	Deaths under 1 year
1900	7,162	154	82	9				
1901	6,130	138	102	18				
1902	6,178	144	96	7				
1903	6,845	128	72	10				
1904	6,917	149	79	11				
1905	6,974	145	88	11				
1906	7,024	120	70	7				
1907	7,085	143	78	5				
1908	7,176	150	89	10				
1909	7,250	147	71	13				
Averages of Years 1900 to 1909	6,824	141	82	10				
1910	6,899	126	77	7				

TABLE IV.
Causes of, and Ages at, Death during year 1910.

CAUSES OF DEATH	DEATHS AT THE SUBJOINED AGES OF "RESIDENTS" WHETHER OCCURRING IN OR BEYOND THE DISTRICT							Total Deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Public Institutions in the District
	All ages	Under 1 year	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 65	65 and upwards	
Smallpox ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping-cough	2	1	1	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Mem- branous croup) ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Croup ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Fever { Typhus Enteric Other continued }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Epidemic Influenza ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Plague ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diarrhœa	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Gastritis ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal Fever ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuber- culosis)	6	...	...	...	1	5	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cancer, Malignant Disease	7	...	...	...	...	5	2	...
Bronchitis	3	...	...	...	...	...	3	...
Pneumonia	3	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Pleurisy ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Diseases of Respiratory Organs ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Alcoholism ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver } ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Venereal Diseases ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Premature Birth ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diseases and Accidents of Par- turation	3	2	1	...	...	...	...	...
Heart Diseases	23	1	...	...	...	5	17	...
Accidents	2	...	1	...	...	1	...	...
Suicides	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Convulsions	1	1	...	...	...	...	...	...
Apoplexy	3	...	...	...	...	2	1	...
All other causes	22	...	...	...	1	6	15	...
All causes	77	6	6	...	3	24	38	...

TABLE V.—INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.

Deaths from stated Causes in Weeks and Months under One Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH		Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
All Causes	Certified ... Uncertified, Nil	...	1	2	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Common Infectious Diseases	{ Small Pox ... Chicken Pox ... Measles ... Scarlet Fever ... Diphtheria (including Membranous Croup) Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	{ Diarrhoea, all forms ... Enteritis, Muco-enteritis, Gastro-enteritis Gastritis, Gastro-intestinal Catarrh	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
	
	
	
Wasting Diseases	{ Premature Birth ... Congenital Defects ... Injury at Birth ... Want of Breast-milk, Starvation Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Total carried forward ...		...	...	2	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4

TABLE V.--INFANTILE MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1910.--Continued.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week	1-2 Weeks	2-3 Weeks	3-4 Weeks	Total under 1 Month	1-2 Months	2-3 Months	3-4 Months	4-5 Months	5-6 Months	6-7 Months	7-8 Months	8-9 Months	9-10 Months	10-11 Months	11-12 Months	Total Deaths under One Year
Brought forward	2	...	3	...	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tuberculous Diseases { Tuberculous Meningitis ... Tuberculous Peritonitis: } Tabes Mesenterica } Other Tuberculous Diseases
Other Causes { Erysipelas ... Syphilis ... Rickets ... Meningitis (not Tuberculous) Convulsions ... Bronchitis ... Laryngitis ... Pneumonia ... Suffocation, overlying ... Other causes
Total	...	1	2	...	3	1	1	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

District of Stockbridge Rural. Population (estimated to middle of 1910), 6,899.

Births in the year:—Legitimate, 121; Illegitimate, 5.

Deaths in the year:—Legitimate Infants, 6; Illegitimate Infants, 0.

Deaths from all Causes at all Ages, 77.

